Gramodaya Yojana, Swarnjayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana (SGSY), Jawahar Gram Samridihi Yojana (JGSY), Employment Assurance (EAS) etc. are also in operation for their welfare.

Purchase of UP Wheat by Punjab

*259. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:
SHRI KHAGEN DAS:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "UP traders reap floor price" and "Punjab denies having bought UP wheat from traders" respectively which appeared in 'The Times of India', New Delhi dated 16th and 17th November, 2001; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHANTA KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) According to information received from the Government of Uttar Pradesh, there is no report of distress sale of wheat. Uttar Pradesh is a surplus State in foodgrains and movement of foodgrains to other States is a normal activity, as the entire country is treated as a single food zone. There was record procurement of 24.46 lakh tonnes of wheat in Uttar Pradesh during the period April to June, 2001.

The Government of Punjab has pointed out that no wheat brought from Uttar Pradesh has been procured by State Procurement Agencies in Punjab during or after the Rabi Marketing Season 2001-2002.